(4) The Mission also arranged accommodation for several Indian nationals while in transit in Baghdad. In some cases medical attention was also provided.

Indians in foreign jails

†*448. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) the number of Indian lodged in foreign jails, country-wise;

(b) whether any steps are being taken by Government to get them released; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) A Statement giving information on Indians in foreign jails is placed on the Table.

(b) and (c) Indian Missions/Posts abroad try to get Indian nationals in foreign jails released, if possible. Indians Missions/Posts abroad provide assistance which includes requesting speedy trials; seeking consular access to the detainees and prisoners; providing advice/guidance in legal and other matters; interacting with the relatives in India; ensuring proper treatment in the prison and facilitating repatriation to India on release.

Delinking of Vadinar area from Kandla Port Trust

*449. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision on the long outstanding request of the Government of Gujarat to delink Vadinar area from the port limits of the Kandla Port Trust and return it back to the State Government;

(b) if so, the decison taken by Government in this regard; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to compensate the Government of Gujarat for the commercial loss, in case its proposal is not acceptable?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI T R BAALU) (a) to (c) Vadinar was included in the limit of Kandla Port after the Government of Gujarat issued notification deleting it from the limit of Minor Port of Salaya, while the Government of India issued notification for its inclusion in the limit of Kandla Port. By the said notifications issued by both the Governments, *i e*, Government of India and Government of Gujarat, Kandla Port Trust has been vested with the jurisdiction of Vadinar Port and, this is under the administrative control of the Board of trustees of the Port of Kandla Since Vadinar is an integral part of the Kandla Port Trust, the request of Government of Gujarat to hand over the Vadinar Port to State Government cannot be agreed to and, therefore, the question of compensation to Government of Gujarat does not arise

Declaration of certain roads as National Highways

†*450 SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any scheme under consideration to declare the road from Sujangarh to Salasar-Sikar-Neem Ka Thana-Kotputli-Behrod-Alwar-Nagaur-Theeg-Mathura on Ambala-Hissar-Churu-Fatehpur-Sujangarh-Nagaur-Jodhpur Pali National Highway as a National Highway,

(b) whether there is need to declare the road from Kolayat to Mathura as National Highway by linking Sujangarh-Mukam-Nokha-Kolayat road with the road mentioned in part (a) above, and

(c) whether this road would be developed as toll road by declaring it a National Highway?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R BAALU): (a) No, Sir

(b) The need for declaration of any new National Highway has not been assessed after declaration of 7,457 km of new National Highways in February, 2004.

(c) Does not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi